



920569-905834

MAIL STOP AF

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE THE APPLICATION OF

Simon Bryden

SERIAL NO.: 10/054,208

FILED: January 22, 2002

FOR: Address Resolution Method For A Virtual
Private Network, and Customer Edge
Device For Implementing the Method

)
) Examiner: Warner Wong
)
) Group Art Unit No. 2616
)
) Customer No: 23644
)
)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being
transmitted to the above - identified Examiner at
the United States Patent and Trademark Office
571-273-8300 on July 11, 2006.

Name of person signing Debbie Healy
Signature Debbie Healy

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED APRIL 12, 2006

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This response is being filed in view of the Examiner's further and final Office Action dated April 12, 2006. No claim amendments are being made, since, as will be explained in greater detail in the following remarks regarding the two references applied against the claims, no amendments are believed to be warranted.

The Examiner still considers the subject-matter of Claim 1 of the present application as being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §103 over Hama (US2004/0202171) in view of Arndt (US 5,708,654). The Examiner asserts that the layer 2 virtual circuits in Hama are the individual terminal connections within a VLAN (Hama discloses to have only one VLAN with respect to a given customer device). Such an interpretation is incorrect since it is in contradiction with both common knowledge of one skilled in the art and the content of the present application, and reconsideration is urged.

DO NOT ENTER

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JRW